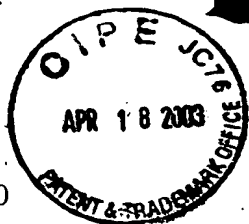


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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :  
Veronique CHEVALIER, et al. : EXAMINER: M. Willis  
SERIAL NO.: 09/784,179 :  
FILED: FEBRUARY 16, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1617  
FOR: COMPOSITION BASED ON  
N-CHOLESTERYLOXYCARBONYL-  
4-PARA-AMINOPHENOL AND  
HYDROQUINONE OR ONE OF ITS  
DERIVATIVES

#13  
HKO  
4-24-03  
H.E.

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 18, 2002, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks.

**REMARKS**

The claimed invention relates to the combination of N-cholesteryloxycarbonyl-4-para-aminophenol and a hydroquinone compound. As demonstrated in the examples in the present application as well as further testing discussed herein (which will be formally submitted via Rule 132 declaration shortly), the claimed combination of compounds results in synergistic anti-depigmentation activity, a result which is "unexpected and surprising."